



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

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Week ending April 30, 2017

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by the Northeastern Regional Field Office of NASS

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Fair week for field work: New England averaged 4.0 days suitable for field work last week. The beginning of the week brought on mild to heavy rain for most of the New England states. However, warm nicer weather appearing mid-week allowed farmers to get to work on their fields. Average weekly temperatures ranged from 2 and 12 degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.07 to 2.47 inches. The warmer weather mid-week allowed for many farmers to resume tillage and field fertilization. Operators continue to plant early season vegetables including peas, lettuce, and greens. Several producers have started planting corn, however the wet soil has delayed many. Cranberry growers irrigated crops when the rain slowed throughout the week, and early reports note that pests are starting to appear in bogs. Many other fruit producers have capitalized on the warmer weather and rainfall, however several reports state that cold weather will slow progress in the coming weeks. Field activities for the week consisted of preparing fields, pruning and tending to crops, spreading fertilizer, early vegetable planting, equipment repair and maintenance.

Crop Progress as of April 30, 2017

(in percent)

Item	This Week
APPLES: GREEN TIP	41
APPLES: PINK	16
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: GREEN TIP	19
BLUEBERRIES, WILD (ME): GREEN TIP	18
PEACHES: GREEN TIP	27
PEACHES: PINK	12
PEARS: GREEN TIP	8
SPRING TILLAGE: PERCENT COMPLETE	22
SWEET CORN: PLANTED	5

Soil Moisture for Week Ending April 30, 2017

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	0	3	62	35
SUBSOIL	0	5	64	31

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oc/weather and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.](#)"

April 30, 2017 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2017					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	79	36	54	+5	1.39	2	3.83	+0.16	13	72	+59	233
	Bangor_Intl_Air	77	32	53	+5	1.20	2	3.98	+0.79	13	61	+52	203
	Bethel	78	35	53	+5	1.21	2	4.06	+0.38	11	56	+47	193
	Bridgton	77	31	51	+5	1.22	3	4.25	+0.41	14	44	+40	155
	Caribou_Municip	67	25	49	+5	0.74	4	3.85	+1.28	18	23	+23	113
	Dover-Foxcroft	76	28	51	+7	0.94	4	4.08	+0.55	15	32	+32	142
	Durham	79	30	53	+5	1.86	3	5.10	+0.79	12	58	+51	206
	East_Surry	71	33	50	+3	1.52	4	4.03	+0.00	17	32	+27	164
	Eustis	75	27	47	+5	0.56	2	2.52	-0.55	14	17	+17	90
	Frenchville	63	21	44	+2	0.95	5	3.00	+0.34	19	8	+8	72
	Harmony	79	31	53	+7	0.98	3	3.90	+0.32	15	44	+41	171
	Hollis	79	30	52	+5	1.48	3	5.42	+1.13	13	54	+49	177
	Houlton	69	24	49	+5	0.84	4	3.86	+1.10	19	29	+29	132
	Livermore_Falls	78	30	53	+8	1.01	2	4.05	+0.10	13	51	+51	184
	Millinocket_Wtr	74	27	48	+3	1.26	4	4.82	+1.38	18	18	+17	108
	Moosehead	70	28	48	+7	0.52	3	4.06	+0.75	18	16	+16	100
	Portland_ME	81	35	52	+4	1.85	2	5.64	+1.53	11	71	+64	230
	Rangeley_2NW	74	28	48	+6	0.31	2	2.30	-0.76	14	24	+24	113
	Topsfield_2	77	31	49	+4	1.49	4	4.42	+1.04	18	22	+22	133
	Turner	76	37	53	+4	1.07	2	3.95	+0.01	13	64	+47	211
	West_Rockport	78	33	51	+5	1.65	4	5.13	+0.56	16	48	+45	188
	Whiting	69	32	50	+5	0.68	4	2.58	-1.81	16	23	+23	182
	Woodland	74	36	50	+4	0.97	4	2.91	-0.72	15	25	+23	170
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	79	33	52	+6	0.37	2	3.16	+0.03	14	53	+49	176
	Bradford_2	79	32	53	+3	0.76	2	3.59	-0.21	10	66	+43	210
	Colebrook	76	26	51	+6	0.20	2	2.66	+0.11	16	42	+42	134
	Concord	84	33	58	+9	0.93	3	3.82	+0.85	13	136	+116	320
	East_Milford	83	38	57	+7	1.24	2	4.33	+0.57	10	118	+92	307
	Epping	83	35	56	+6	1.25	2	4.34	+0.29	13	111	+90	284
	Errol_AP	77	27	50	+8	0.52	3	3.51	+0.79	18	32	+32	127
	Greenville	79	39	55	+7	1.24	2	4.55	+0.95	10	102	+92	262
	Hancock	82	33	57	+8	0.70	3	3.46	-0.33	15	114	+100	284
	Jaffrey_Silver_	80	38	57	+9	0.60	2	3.28	-0.32	12	100	+90	276
	Jefferson	76	17	50	+3	0.33	2	2.15	-0.67	16	59	+49	180
	Keene_AG	81	31	56	+7	0.77	4	3.58	+0.38	14	96	+80	266
	Lakeport_2	80	39	56	+7	0.67	2	3.62	+0.30	12	87	+71	258
	Lebanon	82	33	58	+10	0.39	2	2.87	+0.09	13	124	+111	310
	North_Conway	81	31	54	+6	1.13	3	4.42	+0.45	13	66	+56	217
	Tamworth_4	78	31	52	+6	1.55	3	5.15	+1.07	13	51	+50	176
	Wolfeburro	78	35	55	+6	0.94	3	3.85	+0.53	14	86	+70	249
Vermont	Averill	75	28	51	+10	0.07	1	2.37	-0.67	12	34	+34	134
	Bennington_AP	77	32	58	+11	0.15	1	2.27	-1.18	12	132	+122	342
	Burlington_Intl	81	35	59	+10	0.19	2	3.62	+0.82	14	138	+116	329
	Corinth	75	30	52	+5	0.42	3	3.03	+0.55	15	47	+37	168
	Johnson_2N	75	30	53	+7	0.36	2	4.78	+1.61	15	58	+56	169
	Marlboro_Raws	76	35	55	+10	0.78	3	4.35	+1.71	13	74	+72	239
	Montpelier_AP	76	32	55	+8	0.30	2	3.00	+0.52	15	82	+72	226
	Newport_AG	75	29	53	+4	0.30	2	3.51	+0.67	16	69	+50	189

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2017					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	78	32	53	+6	0.37	2	3.72	+0.12	14	61	+53	209
	Rutland_AG	78	31	54	+4	0.33	2	2.39	-0.33	15	74	+44	236
	Springfield_VT	80	30	56	+9	0.79	2	3.76	-0.07	13	105	+96	278
	South_Lincoln	75	31	53	+8	0.15	2	3.44	-0.64	15	61	+61	186
	Sutton	76	30	54	+10	0.19	2	3.60	+0.87	18	52	+52	165
	Walden	72	27	49	+5	0.30	2	3.91	+1.18	17	30	+30	114
	Woodstock	79	32	55	+7	0.47	2	3.22	-0.14	13	78	+68	245
Massachusetts	Amherst	83	36	58	+7	0.79	3	3.68	-0.04	12	117	+91	327
	Barre_Falls_Dam	83	34	58	+10	0.41	3	5.05	+1.29	13	124	+115	324
	Bedford_Hanscom	83	40	59	+8	1.22	3	4.61	+0.77	12	160	+127	367
	Beverly_Ag	83	34	54	+2	2.39	4	5.90	+1.86	13	97	+64	267
	Birch_Hill_Dam	82	34	57	+9	0.58	3	2.43	-1.16	12	101	+92	275
	Boston_Logan_In	84	45	57	+5	1.46	3	4.85	+1.40	12	140	+97	366
	Chatham_AP	73	46	55	+7	1.00	4	3.51	-0.31	14	65	+55	278
	Chicopee_Westov	84	35	61	+10	0.54	3	3.23	-0.49	14	154	+128	374
	Edgartown	66	42	53	+3	1.24	5	4.30	+0.22	15	56	+36	271
	East_Brimfield_	81	38	58	+8	1.03	3	5.11	+1.10	17	119	+101	321
	Fitchburg	84	45	61	+10	0.99	2	4.06	-0.14	12	182	+153	395
	Greenfield	84	36	59	+8	0.83	2	3.54	-0.18	12	120	+94	332
	Hyannis_AP	76	43	56	+7	1.19	5	3.91	+0.30	14	92	+78	304
	Lawrence_AP	84	42	60	+9	0.84	2	3.86	-0.06	10	179	+154	386
	Maynard	86	37	60	+9	1.12	2	4.36	+0.52	11	164	+131	386
	New_Bedford	80	37	58	+7	1.44	5	5.29	+1.10	16	123	+92	339
	North_Adams_Har	80	31	58	+11	0.19	2	2.34	-1.88	13	124	+116	331
	Norwood	86	38	61	+9	1.55	4	4.82	+0.84	13	175	+134	404
	Pittsfield	77	34	57	+8	0.29	2	3.17	-0.59	12	114	+97	303
	Plymouth	84	40	59	+8	1.42	5	5.78	+1.38	15	129	+102	333
	Taunton_4NW	87	39	60	+9	1.85	2	6.16	+2.15	14	143	+111	357
	Westfield_Barne	84	36	60	+11	0.92	4	3.64	-0.43	13	155	+137	378
	West_Otis	84	34	60	+12	0.49	3	3.11	-1.27	14	137	+126	351
	Worcester	79	42	57	+7	0.84	4	4.03	+0.25	16	131	+110	318
	Worthington	79	33	55	+7	0.78	3	4.12	+0.24	14	85	+75	262
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	75	42	56	+6	2.29	5	5.81	+1.69	15	96	+72	326
	Providence	87	39	60	+7	2.47	4	6.22	+2.23	15	150	+103	389
	Westerly-Wester	79	36	57	+6	1.72	5	4.63	+0.57	15	108	+79	352
	Woonsocket	86	37	59	+8	1.73	4	4.51	+0.26	15	150	+117	367
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	86	42	60	+7	0.98	5	4.81	+0.97	14	150	+102	421
	Danbury_AP	81	35	58	+5	0.83	4	3.30	-0.82	14	124	+76	356
	Hartford_Bradle	86	38	61	+7	0.79	3	3.50	-0.24	16	178	+119	416
	Meriden-Meriden	86	37	61	+10	0.97	4	2.95	-1.52	10	176	+141	428
	Norfolk	78	37	56	+8	0.47	3	2.85	-1.53	16	99	+88	278
	Norwich	85	43	60	+7	1.67	3	4.64	+0.24	13	156	+106	402
	Staffordville	81	36	58	+8	0.49	2	3.84	-0.38	14	104	+79	287
	Thomaston_Dam	84	36	59	+9	0.89	4	4.20	+0.07	16	125	+102	357
	West_Thompson_L	84	35	58	+8	0.87	4	4.20	-0.04	14	126	+102	322
	Willimantic	86	37	62	+12	0.52	4	3.41	-0.81	16	186	+161	433

Summary based on NWS data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

CONNECTICUT

LITCHFIELD, Richard Meinert
Spreading manure and burning down cover crops were the main activities this week between rain events.

NEW LONDON, Sarah Woodward
April showers continued through the end of the month. Many cloudy days with periods of rain and drizzle. Producers still prepping fields and some planting field corn. Apple and peach trees blooming. Garlic starting to gain some size. Other crops being planted, onions, kale and lettuces.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James
Heavy rain this morning, and more on the way, will make for a late planting season. Producers are busying themselves cutting seed and servicing equipment. A sudden strengthening of the oat market may help move a larger than normal inventory.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow
Several days of rain have left most fields are too wet for tillage. Some early sweet corn planting has started. Last year's drought is over for the area. More rain is coming with cold temps next week.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond
It is going to be a mud bowl this week. Hopeful this rainfall will lead to lots of hay growth in May. Time to pound in some fence posts before black fly season. Some manure has been spread.

PENOBSCOT/PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin
Some spreading of manure.

SOMERSET, Kathy Hopkins
A couple nice days with more rain.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski
Rainfall early in the week slowed down field operations. Warmer temperatures in mid-week allowed for tillage and planting operations to resume for a wide variety of crops. Asparagus harvest began earnestly at the end of the week in the Connecticut River Valley.

HAMPSHIRE/HAMPDEN, Heather Baylis
Rainfall and warm weather continues to improve conditions for farmers. Planting of potatoes, onions, asparagus, and sweet corn continue. With the additional rainfall producers are using fungicides to protect fruits trees and berry bushes. The first "Hadley Gold" asparagus has hit the market.

PLYMOUTH, Erika Saalau Rojas
Scattered rains and fog were observed throughout most of the region early in the week. The week ended with warm daytime temperatures and colder nights, prompting a few cranberry growers across the region to run irrigation to protect the developing buds. Cranberry insect pest are starting to appear in bogs and some reports included weevil, black-headed fire worm, gypsy moth and winter moth.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHESHIRE, Carl Majewski
Warm at the beginning and end of the week, with a little rain and cooler temps in the middle. Grass is growing well in hayfields and pastures. Last of spring seeding going in, with tillage just starting for field corn. Some planting on early veggie crops. Apples should be ready to bloom soon.

COOS, Steve Turaj
Mix of weather, still cold spring conditions. Meadows just beginning to green up, a little preliminary corn field tillage and manure spreading on lighter soils. Maple trees flowering.

GRAFTON, Heather Bryant
A warm week allowed farms to make progress on spreading manure and spring tillage.

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt
For the week ending April 29th, we received 0.28 inches of rain. Top soils are generally dry enough to access with farm equipment. Producers are spreading and incorporating manure, and moving forward with other spring activities. Ground water levels in the southern end of the county are still below normal, as a result of the prior year's drought. The northern end of the county appears to be in better condition. Pastures are beginning to grow, and spring has arrived.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton
Fruits: Orchardists made sure bees were in apple orchards. In Hollis area, apples-McIntosh trees are at king bloom to full bloom, looking like a very good bloom overall and peaches are at full bloom. Cherry full bloom is heavy. Blueberry is at early pink. Concord area apples-McIntosh trees were at separated flower in the cluster to pre-pink stage. Pruning peach trees, blueberry bushes and raspberry patches. Fertilizing orchards and other fruit plantings. Protective fungicide sprays applied on fruit trees and blueberries. Planting fruit trees, grapes, raspberries, blueberries and strawberries. Field Crops: Farmers are fertilizing hayfields; spreading manure, plowing, disking, and fertilizing. Vegetables: Continue early season vegetables (peas, lettuce, greens, cole crops) planting, along with sweet corn and potatoes. Liming, fertilizing, plowing, disking, laying plastic and getting ready plant fields.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

Plum trees in blossom, cherries trees are in full bloom. Pear blossom about to bloom. Planting apple and peach trees, blueberry bushes and strawberries. Greenhouse tomatoes in season extension growing well. Liming and fertilizing fields. Planting early vegetables. Harvesting greens. Spreading manure in hay fields. Rain helped. We saw a couple of warm days.

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly

Some rain fell during the week totaling about 0.6 inches. The first part of the weekend was warm with highs in the mid to upper 70s. Sunday was much cooler and rainy. The maple season is over. It was a mixed bag. Some producers had a better yield than last year, but down from what they're comfortable with. Some producers had an above average year while others were down 1/3. Overall quality was good and vacuum was key this year. Producers would have been able to make more had they tapped earlier at the end of January. Hay fields and pastures are greening up. Vegetable producers are busy preparing their fields for planting. The peach bloom is beautiful. Bees should be arriving to orchards this week.

RHODE ISLAND**ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert**

At least two inches of rain this week. Fields are wet.

VERMONT**ALL VT COUNTIES, Terence Bradshaw**

The very first apple blossoms opened over the weekend in the warmest areas, but expected cool weather will slow onset of widespread bloom. Most orchards are at pink bud stage or earlier; inland, cooler orchards are at half-inch green to tight cluster. Growers are protecting for apple scab. This looks like a great week for planting trees, with cool, cloudy weather and some rain expected. Grapes are showing some bud swelling. This is a last good window to apply non-selective herbicides before bud break.

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

Another nice week for field work now well underway.

CALEDONIA, Daniel Hudson

It has been so cool and wet that very little manure has been spread, and few tillage operations have been undertaken.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

Wet weather continues to delay corn planting. Much activity in manure spreading and tillage, however, a long ways to go. Grass is doing great and much Nitrogen has been applied with great growth for uptake. Pastures are looking good. Fruits continue to bud and develop in the moisture and warmer temps.